The Gift of Righteousness (Part -2)
Overcoming Accusations and Reigning in Life
Sunday March 12, 2023

We continue our study on "The Gift of Righteousness". In case you missed Part-1 of this two part sermon series, please visit our church website for last Sunday's sermon.

We stated last week that understanding this truth of being made righteousness in Him, will change our perception - how we perceive ourselves spiritually, and what we think about how God looks at us. This is very important because it affects:

- how we see ourselves as we approach God
- how we deal with shame, guilt, and condemnation
- how we stand up against the accusations and attacks of the enemy (satan)
- how we face life's challenges

The first two areas: how we see ourselves as we approach God, and how we deal with shame, guilt, and condemnation, were addressed in the sermon last Sunday.

We will be addressing the last two areas: how we stand up against the accusations and attacks of the enemy (satan), and how we face life's challenges, in the message today.

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Ephesians 6:13-14
13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

Righteousness is our breastplate. In the natural the breastplate would cover our vital organs. Similarly, in the spiritual, the breastplate of righteousness is very important.

Righteousness, our right standing with God, our being justified before God, having peace with God and positioned in a place of grace and favor before Him, is God's free gift to us. But we must "put on" the breastplate of righteousness. That is, we must know, believe, embrace, and live out of this free gift of righteousness, in our conflict against the powers of darkness.

THE ACCUSER OF THE BRETHREN

Satan, the devil is called the accuser of the brethren. One of the ways the enemy attacks us is with accusations.

Accusations are attempts made by the enemy to bring us under guilt, shame and condemnation before God. The accusations of the enemy are designed to make us feel unloved, unworthy, unaccepted, judged, and condemned in the eyes of our heavenly Father.

Revelation 12:10-11
10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.
11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

This Scripture also teaches us what to do. We have to use the word of our testimony, declaring what the blood of the Lamb has done for us.

DECLARE WHAT THE BLOOD OF JESUS HAS DONE FOR YOU!

This is very important.
We need to speak and declare what God has done for us through the blood of Jesus Christ.
We have been washed from all our sins by the blood of Jesus.
We have been made righteousness of God because of the blood of Jesus.
We have been justified, made just as if we never sinned, through the blood of Jesus.

IT IS GOD WHO HAS JUSTIFIED YOU!

Romans 8:1
There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:32-34
32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

The Bible makes it very clear that there is no condemnation against us in Jesus Christ. God Himself has justified us. Who can charge, condemn, or accuse us?

Now lets turn our attention to how we face life's challenges and overcome adversity, because of the gift of righteousness.

REIGNING IN LIFE

Romans 5:17
For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

Adam through his sin and disobedience, put us under subjection to sin, satan and all the things that came out of that.

However, this Scripture is teaching us that we who have received abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness we will "reign in life" through Jesus Christ. We will reign over sin, satan and all the things that we were subjected to because of Adam's sin.

GOD'S GRACE AND HIS GIFT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS HAS PUT YOU IN A PLACE OF DOMINION

In this world we will face all kinds of situations, challenges, adversities, and difficulties. Some of these are the result of people's actions, some of these are the result of direct demonic activity.

Living in this world, we are not exempt from being confronted with all kinds of challenges. We will have to face these challenges.

In all these situations, we must be firm that God's grace and His gift of righteousness has put us in a place of dominion over these situations. We will "reign in life". We will rule and have dominion over these things in life.

IN EVERY SITUATION GOD IS FOR YOU!

Romans 8:31

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

We must not even for one moment, think that God is doing these things to us. God is for us not against us. He has made us righteous, so that we can be on His side, and He on our side.

This is again an area where the enemy, satan, will cause us to doubt. His lying suggestions come to our minds, telling us that maybe God is angry with us. God is against us, and so on.

We must be absolutely convinced that in every situation, God is for us. He is on our side.

IN EVERY SITUATION YOU ARE MORE THAN A CONQUEROR!

Romans 8:37
Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

In all situations, we are more than conquerors because God loves us.
God won the battle for us. God conquered the enemy for us. Jesus overcame the world – all that is in it – for us (John 16:33). Hence, we are more than conquerors. We will triumph. We will overcome.

IN EVERY SITUATION GOD CAUSES YOU TO TRIUMPH!

2 Corinthians 2:14
Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

In Christ, God will always cause us to triumph. This is our attitude, mindset and expectation. God will bring us out victorious.

IN EVERY SITUATION YOU ARE AN OVERCOMER!

1 John 5:4
For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

We are born of God and we overcome the world. We must exercise our faith in God.

God has given us abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness, setting us in a place where we can reign in life. Now, we exercise faith in God, His promises, the power of the blood and resist the enemy, and speak to the mountains and the storms, the winds and the waves, the needs and situations, and declare God's Word over them. We are overcomers.

SALVATION CALL

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Gift of Righteousness (Part -2)
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The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation
To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our sermons page . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome
The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word
Read the following Scripture references: *Ephesians 6:13-14; Revelation 12:10-11; Romans 5:17*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together
Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, Discuss satan's strategy as 'the accuser of the brethren' and how we stand up against the accusations of the enemy (satan), because of having received God's abundant grace and gift of righteousness.

2, Discuss how we face life's challenges, because of having received God's abundant grace and gift of righteousness.

3, Why is it that some believers find it difficult to accept that they are the righteousness of God and have been justified (made just as if I have never sinned) in God's eyes? Instead, they live under a sense of guilt, shame and condemnation, almost all the time.

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey
Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another
Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:
1, families to be protected and strengthened
2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.
3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.
YOUTUBE: https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore
WEBSITE: https://apcwo.org/live

Our other websites and free resources:
CHURCH: https://apcwo.org
FREE SERMONS: https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons
FREE BOOKS: https://apcwo.org/books/english
DAILY DEVOTIONALS: https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional
JESUS CHRIST: https://examiningjesus.com
BIBLE COLLEGE: https://apcbiblecollege.org
E-LEARNING: https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn
WEEKEND SCHOOLS: https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools
COUNSELING: https://chrysalislife.org
MUSIC: https://apcmusic.org
MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: https://pamfi.org
CHURCH APP: https://apcwo.org/app
CHURCHES: https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches
WORLD MISSIONS: https://apcworldmissions.org

SERMON OUTLINE

This is part-2 of the sermon series where we explore the powerful truth of the gift of righteousness that God has given to every believer, freely by His grace. Righteousness is our breastplate. In the natural the breastplate would cover our vital organs. Similarly, in the spiritual, the breastplate of righteousness is very important. Satan, the devil is called the accuser of the brethren. One of the ways the enemy attacks us is with accusations. Accusations are attempts made by the enemy to bring us under guilt, shame and condemnation before God. The accusations of the enemy are designed to make us feel unloved, unworthy, unaccepted, judged, and condemned in the eyes of our heavenly Father. We have to use the word of our testimony, declaring what the blood of the Lamb has done for us. We need to speak and declare what God has done for us through the blood of Jesus Christ. Scripture teaches us that we who have received abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness we will “reign in life” through Jesus Christ. We will reign over sin, satan and all the things that we were subjected to because of Adam’s sin. We must not even for one moment, think that God is doing these things to us. God is for us not against us. He has made us righteous, so that we can be on His side, and He on our side.

KEYWORDS
gift of righteousness, free gift of righteousness, righteousness by faith, gracious gift, grace gift, righteousness and grace, reigning in life, accuser of the brethren, overcomers, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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